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Mrs. Coretta King To Visit City To Back Hospital Union

Mrs. Coretta Scott King will visit Baltimore Tuesday to urge some 1,500 employees at the Johns Hopkins Hospital to vote for union representation in a two-day election this week.

The visit by the widow of the slain civil rights worker, The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., was announced by Fred Punch, organizer for the Hospital and Nursing Home Employees Union, Local 1199E, which is seeking the right to represent the hospital workers.

"I regard this election as tremendoulsy important to the struggle to wipe out poverty wages and win a measure of self-respect and dignity for all Baltimore hospital workers," Mrs. King said in a statement announcing her visit.

She will meet with Johns Hopkins Hospital workers outside the hospital's Monument street entrance from 2.30 P.M. to 3.45 P.M., Tuesday.

Mrs. King is honorary chairman of the National Organizing Committee of Hospital and Nursing Home Employees, the parent group of the Baltimore local union, which led the four-month strike against two Charleston (S.C.) hospitals.

The strikes became a national civil rights issue, and leaders of union announcement soon after the successful conclusion of the strikes in July that Baltimore would be the next target city.

Mr. Punch and other union workers, who arrived in Baltimore in March to begin organizing three hospitals, won the right to represent the service and maintenance employees at Lutheran Hospital Friday, in the city's first election for union representation among the employees of a private hospital.

Another election, among some 140 employees at North Charles General Hospital, is slated for September 5.

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